

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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RES

L.D. 956

DATE: 5-14-03

(Filing No. H-367)

MINORITY
CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
121ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 713, L.D. 956, Bill, "An Act To Improve the Procedure for Locating Runaway Children"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2154, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Child missing from interim care. If a child in the custody of the Department of Human Services whose permanent residence is believed to be located in this State has been placed in interim care that includes temporary shelter for a period of 60 days or less and the child becomes a missing child, the law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction where the temporary shelter is located is responsible for the initial investigation of the missing child report and entering a juvenile in the missing persons file as required by subsection 2. After the child has been a missing child for at least 48 hours, but no more than 60 days, if the chief administrative officer of the law enforcement agency having initial jurisdiction or that chief administrative officer's designee determines that it is in the best interest of finding the child, that law enforcement agency may transfer responsibility for the investigation and the entry of additional information as required by subsection 4 to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the location in this State that is believed to be the permanent residence of the missing child. The transferring law enforcement agency shall modify the entry required by subsection 2 by changing the

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originating agency identifier to that of the law enforcement agency to which the responsibility for investigation is transferred. This subsection is repealed July 1, 2005.'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill and is the minority report. The amendment allows a law enforcement agency having original responsibility over a missing child report involving a child who is a runaway from the Department of Human Services interim care that includes temporary shelter to transfer responsibility for investigating the case to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over a location in this State that is believed to be the permanent residence of the runaway child. A transfer of responsibility may be made after the child has been a missing child for at least 48 hours, but no more than 60 days, if the chief administrative officer of the law enforcement agency determines that it is in the best interest of finding the child. This amendment also repeals this new subsection July 1, 2005.